



# FI Newsletter

The Town of Fenwick Island

800 Coastal Highway

Fenwick Island DE 19944

## Happy Spring!

The time of year is upon us, time for many changes which take place in our Town of Fenwick Island. Many residents of our Town are returning after being away all winter. Many more lights are on in homes and traffic is beginning to increase. Many of us who are year round residents are seeing our neighbors and friends for the first time in 2011. It is time to catch up on our lives since we last saw each other. There have been many happy as well as many unhappy happenings which we share together. But as we all know, Spring leads into Summer and, as Summer proceeds, new happy memories are made again to add to our already long list. Our small Town at the beach creates these memories for many people whether they are residents or visitors and guests.

As you read through this newsletter, you will learn about changes as well as being reminded of existing information which help us all live in a Resort Town for all to enjoy. When you receive your parking pass packet, you will also find information enclosed. Please read and post for your friends, guests and tenants. You will find a new trash schedule addressing regular trash, recycling and yard waste. You can also find an information book at Town Hall which addresses most of the issues you may have questions about be it parking, life guards, beach use and much more. We try to make this information available to all who visit our Town and we ask you to assist us in accomplishing this.

And just a reminder—if you want to know what is going on in Town as well as everyday questions, you can always consult the Town of Fenwick Island web site. Last but not least you can call our helpful and friendly staff at Town Hall for information.

In closing, I sincerely wish you and your guests and friends a very happy and healthy Summer of 2011. Make plenty of happy memories to add to those you may already have!

*Audrey Serio, Mayor & Council President*

## PARKING REGULATIONS IN EFFECT

Parking Passes must be used on all streets May 15 to September 15. Property owners can pick up passes at Town Hall M-F 8AM–4PM and on weekends and holidays 9AM–3PM.

Visitor passes are sold at Town Hall during regular business hours and on weekends and holidays 9AM– 3PM. The sale of a parking pass does not guarantee a parking space.

## Town Manager's Report

There is nothing that defines summer in Fenwick Island like sun, surf and sand. The sun and ocean will always be here. The sand, though, is constantly on the move.

After the storms in November 2009, some places on our beach were a mere forty feet wide at high tide. Natural wave action has brought back much of the “lost” shoreline, but additional sand would be a welcome sight. A wide beach provides not only a place to spread your blanket but also a valuable buffer between our personal/community investment and a sometimes stormy sea.

Our Congressional delegation has provided funding for a beach re-nourishment project that will occur during June. The timing is not the best - but it is something that we can accommodate. The work will progress quickly and the dividends will pay through the years. It is unlikely that this will happen again for five years or more. Please be mindful of the “rolling” beach closure signs.

If you have been away over the winter, you may have missed the on-going changes affecting trash services throughout the State of Delaware. Fenwick Island has maintained the same level of service with no increase in fees – despite tremendous pressure created through new laws or regulations. Please don't mix yard waste with your residential trash.

Also, by September, *all residents* will have a recycling container. There is no extra charge and this complies with the new “Universal Curbside Recycling” Delaware law. Our goal is to divert recyclable materials from landfills. Your participation in this program is truly appreciated.

Best wishes for an enjoyable summer,

*Win Abbott, Town Manager*



## Charter & Ordinance Committee

The Charter and Ordinance Committee continues to meet on the first Tuesday of every month. We continue to work on revising Ch. 160 Zoning, our longest and most detailed section of our code book. Recent changes that have been approved by Council include sections concerning signs and banners at businesses, updating the Streets and Sidewalk section to include the recent street name changes, and adding a section addressing temporary summer business on vacant commercial lots. Our 9:30 AM. meetings are open to the public and your input is always welcome.

*Bill Weistling, Council Member*

## Fenwick Island Police Department

The warmer weather is finally here and with it comes increased traffic and visitors. Please take the time to make sure you stay safe when walking, biking and crossing the highway. Cross at the marked crosswalks along Coastal Highway. Wear brightly colored clothing for high visibility and be sure to use/wear reflectors when walking and bicycling in the evening.

Our community has been lucky and has not suffered from the marked increase in crime that typically accompanies an economic downturn. We all need to do our part not to become victims—lock your car doors and don't leave items of value like cell phones out in the open. Keep your property locked. This includes your bikes, your house and the garage. Sign up to [www.Nixle.com](http://www.Nixle.com) for alerts for traffic and weather and for daily reports on accidents and incidents. Have a safe and fun summer season.

*Chief William H. Boyden*

## Environmental Committee Fenwick Foxes ... Part of the Beach Environment

Most Fenwick Island residents, especially "old timers" and the year-round folks, are aware of the gray and red that roam our beach and bay areas. Normally, fox activity is nocturnal unless the fox has lost its den or is caring for its young. Foxes are also usually timid and will flee when approached by people or large animals. For whatever reasons, however, the Fenwick foxes seem quite comfortable operating in the open, day or night, with people nearby.

Many find these animals amusing to watch. One community member recently related how she enjoyed observing a gray fox on the beach chasing ghost crabs. Bayside residents report that they have often seen foxes in the winter cross over to Fenwick using the ice on the Little Assawoman Bay. We should also appreciate the balancing role in nature that these animals play in keeping our rabbit, rodent and large bug populations in check.

However, people should keep their distance from the fox, no matter how "friendly" or tame it might appear. Foxes can be infected with lice, mange, rabies, distemper and a variety of other diseases that can be transmitted to people and/or their pets. As such, pet owners should proceed with extreme caution (use gloves) when inspecting any open wounds that their animals may have incurred while straying from the safety of their home. Common sense also dictates that residents should not try to feed the foxes, thereby encouraging them to "hang out" with humans.

Interestingly enough, the March 2011 edition of the *National Geographic* features an article entitled "Designing the Perfect Pet ... Can a fox become man's best friend?" Regardless of the Russian research in this direction, let's continue to enjoy the Fenwick foxes at a distance.

**Future Town Hall Dates to Remember:**  
**May 26:** Geothermal Energy Workshop 2PM  
**June 18:** Solar Panel Workshop by CNC Solar Company, 9 to 11 AM  
**July 9:** Marine Education, Research and Rehabilitation Institute (MERR) – Speaker and Exhibit, 10 AM. All ages invited!

*Council Member Vicki Carmean*

## CRS

Most of you are aware that the Town of Fenwick Island is a member of the *National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)* which provides federally backed flood insurance to encourage communities to enact and enforce floodplain regulations. The *Community Rating System (CRS)* is a part of the *NFIP* and provides incentives and tools to further flood prevention practices and requirements.

The goals of the *CRS* are to recognize, encourage, and reward, by the use of flood insurance premium adjustments, community activities beyond the minimum required by the *NFIP* that reduce flood damage to insurable property, strengthen and support the insurance aspects of the *NFIP*, and encourage a comprehensive approach to floodplain management.

Thus, the *CRS* provides insurance premium rate reductions to policy holders in recognition that their community activities work toward these three goals of reducing flood damage, supporting the insurance part of the *NFIP*, and pursuing a broad approach to floodplain management.

The Town of Fenwick Island has been rated a Class 8 *CRS* community which provides the Town's flood insurance policy holders a 10% discount on their flood insurance premiums. To learn how you may obtain additional discounts on your flood insurance premium, please contact me in Town Hall or by e-mail at [pschuchman@fenwickisland.org](mailto:pschuchman@fenwickisland.org).

*Pat Schuchman, Building Official*



## Proper Handling of Trash

Town Code specifies the manner in which trash should be handled. Please note the following:

- Trash, rubbish and garbage should be placed in covered watertight containers NOT to exceed 32 gallons in size or 50 pounds in weight when filled
- All owners are responsible for removing any debris or rubbish which may accumulate on their property
- Trash and recycle containers may not be placed along the curb in front of the property earlier than noon preceding the pick up day
- All trash and recycle containers must be removed from the front of the property within 12 hours after it has been emptied by the collector

### YARD WASTE

Beginning on 4/21 and continuing every 3rd Thursday until 11/17, Blue Hen Disposal will pick up YARD WASTE ONLY. Yard waste may be contained in plastic, paper or compostable bags or bundles not exceeding 4' in length. No container may weigh more than 50 pounds. Place bundles/containers on the street in the Town right-of-way NOT in your trash corral.

Yard waste is defined as plant material that comes from lawn maintenance and other gardening and landscaping activities including: grass, leaves, pruning, brush, shrubs, garden materials, Christmas trees, tree limbs up to 2" in diameter.

IMPORTANT! If your container/bundles contains any material other than yard waste or if it exceeds required length/weight it will be rejected!

### 2011 Junior Lifeguard Program

Session #1 June 28-30

Session #2 July 5-7

Session #3 July 12-14

Session #4 July 19-21

Session #5 July 26-28

Session #6 August 2-4

All sessions run from 10:00am – 12:00pm. Advanced Program begins July 5. Please call town hall for more information or download an application

[www.fenwickisland.delaware.gov](http://www.fenwickisland.delaware.gov)



Limit 15 children per session.

### Fenwick Island Beach Patrol

Captain Tim Ferry and the FIBP are looking forward to another excellent beach season. It may be hard to believe right now, but in just a few short weeks, summer will be here. Because many of our guards from last year are returning, we anticipate having another excellent and experienced staff. However, with beach replenishment on the horizon for the month of June, please be aware of and adhere to any additional safety measures and temporary beach closures that may be necessary.

The FIBP will commence duty on Saturday, May 28, 2011, with coverage through Memorial Day weekend. Thereafter, the beach patrol will be on duty for the weekend of June 4th and 5th with full time coverage beginning on June 11th and extending through Labor Day (September 5th). Weekend coverage will resume the following two weekends, September 10th -11th and 17th - 18th. As usual, the daily hours of operation will be 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

The Junior Lifeguard Program will be offered again this season with weekly sessions during June, July and August. The Advanced Program will run for 5 weeks. More information will be available on the Town website and registration begins May 1<sup>st</sup>. In addition, plan to stop by Town Hall in June for beach related brochures and coloring books about rip currents and water safety.

The FIBP will be assisting with the Town Bonfire again this year. Fundraiser T-Shirts, Auction items, and a 50 / 50 drawing will be available as well as games and music for both kids and adults so keep the date of July 2nd open! T-shirts will be available for purchase beginning in May. Proceeds will help offset the cost for the USLA National Lifeguard Championships. For more information regarding tax-exempt donations that can be made on behalf of the FIBP, contact Captain Tim Ferry at [tferry@fenwickisland.org](mailto:tferry@fenwickisland.org).

Applications for employment are available on the town website or at the Town hall. Tryouts for the Beach Patrol will be held on Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, May 29<sup>th</sup>, at 10:15 on Dagsboro Street.

*Tim Ferry, Fenwick Island Beach Patrol Captain*



## VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE NEARS

All those wishing to vote in the annual election must be registered with the Town no later than June 30. A voter qualifications guide and application form is available at Town Hall or on line at [www.fenwickisland.delaware.gov/](http://www.fenwickisland.delaware.gov/)

The filing deadline to run for a seat on Town Council is 4:30 PM on Tuesday, June 21, 2011. Four council terms expire this year: Audrey Serio, Todd Smallwood, Gene Langan and Vicki Carmean. You must be registered to vote for at least one year prior to the election for which you seek to be nominated. Other candidate qualifications include: a natural person who is a citizen of the United States; age 21 on or before the date of the election; and either a *bona fide* resident of the Town or a property owner in the Town; you may not have been convicted of a felony. Contact Town Clerk, Agnes DiPietrantonio, to obtain a filing package.


Election Day in Fenwick Island is scheduled for Saturday, August 6 from 1 PM—5PM. The Fenwick Island Society of Homeowners (FISH) is hosting a “Meet the Candidates” on Saturday, July 16, 2011 at 9:00 AM.

### NIXLE is here!

Stay instantly informed of trusted, neighborhood-level public safety and community information. You choose the information you want, for the addresses you want, all delivered free by text message, email or both. Sign up at [www.Nixle.com/](http://www.Nixle.com/) and start getting your local alerts today.

### A Safety Reminder

Summertime is great here at the beach but, please, don't leave common sense behind when you come for your visit. Remember to lock your car doors and to secure your dwelling at all times. Place valuables where they cannot be seen. Don't invite a tragedy. Be smart and be safe.

Town Council	Council Calendar	Residential Trash Collection Schedule 2011	
<p><b>Audrey Serio</b> Mayor, President of Council aserio@fenwickisland.org</p> <p><b>Todd Smallwood</b> Deputy Mayor tsmallwood@fenwickisland.org</p> <p><b>Diane Tingle</b> Secretary dtingle@fenwickisland.org</p> <p><b>Gardner Bunting</b> Treasurer gbunting@fenwickisland.org</p> <p><b>Vicki Carmean</b> vcarmean@fenwickisland.org</p> <p><b>Bill Weistling</b> wweistling@fenwickisland.org</p> <p><b>Gene Langan</b> glangan@fenwickisland.org</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>Win Abbott</b> Town Manager wabbott@fenwickisland.org</p> <p>.....</p> <p><b>Town Hall Phone Numbers</b> <b>Phone:</b> 302.539.3011 <b>Fax:</b> 302.539.1305 <b>Police Department Phone #</b> Phone: 302.539.2000 Officer on Duty 302.542.8793 Emergency: <b>911</b></p>	<p>Friday, May 20 • Council Meeting 3:30pm</p> <p>Friday, June 24 • Council Meeting 3:30pm</p> <p>Wednesday, June 30 • Voter registration closes</p> <p>Friday, July 22 • Council Meeting 3:30pm</p> <p>Saturday, August 6 • Town Election 1- 5pm</p> <p>Friday, August 26 • Council Meeting 3:30pm</p> <p>Friday, September 23 • Council Meeting 3:30pm</p> <p>Friday, October 28 • Council Meeting 3:30pm</p>	<p><b>Monday &amp; Thursday Pick-up</b> May 2 —September 29</p> <p><b>Monday only Pick-up</b> October 3 —April</p> <p><b>Heavy Trash &amp; Appliance Pick-up</b> June 8, 9 &amp; 10 September 7, 8, &amp; 9</p>	
		<p><b><u>Curbside Recycle Schedule</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May—September pickup every Friday</li> <li>• October through April pickups are <u>first &amp; third</u> Fridays only</li> </ul>	
		<p><b>Shuffleboard League</b> Contact Mary Wright 302.539.6697</p>	
		<p><b>Please Remember...</b> do not place trash or recycle containers out earlier than 24 hrs in advance and remember to put them away promptly within 12 hours after pick-up.</p> <p>The FI Lions Club aluminum can recycle bins remain at both the beach ends and behind town hall. Please continue to support their cause.</p> 	
		<p><b>Fenwick Island Fishing Club</b> Contact John Belian 302.537.1742</p>	